
THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2787

Author: Committee on Water, Parks, and Wildlife

Amended: 8/18/26 in Senate

Vote: 21

SENATE NATURAL RES. & WATER COMMITTEE: 7-0, 7/1/26

AYES: Becker, Seyarto, Allen, Cabaldon, Grove, Laird, Stern

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 66-0, 5/7/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Water, parks, and wildlife: omnibus bill

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill clarifies requirements for the California Department of Water Resources to review and re-prioritize groundwater basins when their boundaries change, and exempts, for either of the lakes located on the California-Nevada border, recreational boaters meeting certain Nevada requirements for aquatic invasive species prevention from citations for violating California requirements for invasive mussel infestation prevention.

Senate Floor Amendments of 8/18/26 make technical changes to the language prohibiting the citation of vessels complying with Nevada aquatic invasive species prevention requirements in the two lakes located in both California and Nevada.

Senate Floor Amendments of 8/11/26 clarify that Nevada aquatic invasive species prevention requirements for vessels include the display of a current Nevada-issued aquatic invasive species decal, as provided.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Establishes an invasive mussel infestation prevention fee set by the Division of Boating and Waterways in the Department of Parks and Recreation.
 - a) Provides that the fee shall be deposited into the Harbors and Watercraft Revolving Fund and shall be available, upon appropriation by the Legislature, for administration of the fee and for implementation of invasive mussel infestation prevention plans.
 - b) Limits the fee to not more than \$10 in even-numbered years and not more than \$20 in odd-numbered years before 2026.
 - c) Limits the fee to between \$15 and \$21 in even-numbered years and between \$30 and \$42 in odd-numbered years beginning in 2026, with adjustments for inflation in odd-numbered years.
 - d) Requires the California Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to issue an invasive mussel infestation prevention sticker upon payment of the fee.
 - e) Provides that failure to pay the fee shall not prohibit DMV from issuing registration of a vessel.
 - f) Provides that a vessel operator may be issued a citation for operating a recreational vessel in nonmarine waters without a valid state-issued invasive mussel infestation prevention sticker. (Harbors and Navigation Code §§675–676)
- 2) Requires that, in addition to the fee for the original registration or registration renewal of a vessel, DMV shall collect from resident and nonresident vessel owners an invasive mussel infestation prevention fee.
 - a) Requires DMV to issue an invasive mussel infestation prevention sticker upon payment of the fee.
 - b) Provides that failure to pay the fee shall not prohibit DMV from issuing registration of a vessel.
 - c) Provides that a vessel operator may be issued a citation for operating a recreational vessel in nonmarine waters without a valid state-issued invasive mussel infestation prevention sticker. (Vehicle Code §§9853, 9860)

- 3) Requires the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) to conduct an investigation of the state's groundwater basins and to identify the groundwater basins on the basis of geological and hydrological conditions and consideration of political boundary lines whenever practical.
 - a) Authorizes DWR to revise the boundaries of groundwater basins based on its own investigations or information provided by others; and
 - b) Requires DWR to report its findings to the Governor and the Legislature in years ending in five. (Water Code §12924)
- 4) Requires DWR to prioritize groundwater basins and subbasins according to specified criteria. (Water Code §10933)
- 5) Requires DWR to categorize each groundwater basin as high, medium, low, or very low priority and requires that any time DWR updates groundwater basin boundaries, DWR shall reassess the prioritization. (Water Code §10722.4)

This bill:

- 1) Requires DWR every time it updates Bulletin 118 boundaries to reassess the prioritization of groundwater basins for which changes to the boundaries have been made. Requires DWR to review and determine whether a reprioritization of groundwater basins where changes to the boundaries have been made on or by January 31, 2035 and not less than every 10 years thereafter.
- 2) Prohibits citing a person who operates a vessel on the waters of Lake Tahoe or Topaz Lake who has not paid an invasive mussel infestation prevention fee to California if the vessel is registered in Nevada, Nevada has a program in effect for the management of aquatic invasive species, and the vessel displays a current Nevada-issued aquatic invasive species decal as provided.
- 3) Deletes obsolete invasive mussel infestation prevention fee language. Makes minor and conforming changes.
- 4) Declares that a special statute is necessary due to the interstate location of Lake Tahoe and Topaz Lake, as specified.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/18/26)

Tahoe Regional Planning Agency

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/18/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to the author, “AB 2787 is the Assembly Water, Parks, and Wildlife Committee’s omnibus bill, which makes a number of helpful statutory updates. [...] Additionally, AB 2787 simplifies the rules for recreation on our interstate lakes by extending reciprocity to Nevada invasive species stickers on Lake Tahoe and Topaz Lake, as Nevada has done for Californians.”

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 66-0, 5/7/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Ward, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Bonta, Chen, Flora, Gallagher, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Papan, Petrie-Norris, Celeste Rodriguez, Valencia, Wallis, Wicks

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